## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 015750 ORIGIN AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-02 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /030 R

DRAFTED BY USDA: OSABATINI:WRF
APPROVED BY EUR/RPE: AALBRECHT
USDA:RSCHROETER
SDA:GSINDELAR
STATE:DPATTERSON
TATE:PMCLEAN

-----073680 200507Z/13

P R 200158Z JAN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS STATE 015750

USEEC

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EC

SUBJECT: EC DUTY ON APPLES

REF.: BRUSSELS 16232

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- 1. U.S. APPLE INDUSTRY STRONGLY URGING EXTENSION DUTY SUSPENSION OR AT LEAST, CONTINUATION OF CURRENT TEMPORARY RATE TO END OF MAY.
- 2. SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE HAS REJECTED UK RE-QUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY RATE. HENCE, MATTER WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED BY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON JANUARY 23-24

UNLESS ONE OF THE MINISTERS BRINGS IT UP ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE.

3. PLEASE PROVIDE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO APPROPRIATE AGMINISTRY OFFICIALS TO SUPPORT ANY BRITISH INITIATIVE AT THE COUNCIL MEETING: (A) PRICES TO EC CONSUMERS ALREADY HIGH. (B) EC STORAGE SUPPLIES ARE DIMINISHING, PUTTING ADDITIONAL UPWARD PRESSURE ON PRICES. (C) FURTHER PRESSURES ON PRICES EXPECTED BECAUSE OF -- (1) NORTH ATLANTIC-UNITED KINGDOM FREIGHT CONFERENCE GENERAL RATE WILL INCREASE 8 PER CENT ON FEBRUARY 1 AND A TEMPORARY EMERGENCY SURCHARGE OF 6 PERCENT WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON MARCH 1; AND (2) THE NORTH ATLANTIC-BALTIC CONFERENCE AND THE NORTH ATLANTIC-CONTINENTAL FREIGHT CONFERENCE ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE THEIR RATES BY AN IDENTICAL AMOUNT. D) LOWER DUTY WOULD PARTIALLY OFFSET THE POTENTIAL INCREASES IN OCEAN TRANSPORT COSTS. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: CUSTOMS DUTIES, APPLES, EXPORT CONTROLS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 20 jan 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE015750
Document Source: CDR

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: OSABATINI:WRF Enclosure: n/a

Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A **Expiration:** 

Film Number: D780030-0272

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780139/aaaabgyo.tel

Line Count: 79 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation Codes.
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cc14c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AGRE

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 BRUSSELS 16232

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 07 feb 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a

Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3738458 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: EC DUTY ON APPLES

TAGS: EAGR, EC To: LONDON USEEC

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/cc14c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014